

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MANAMA 00583 211450Z

46

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 AID-05 OMB-01 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03

H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 (ISO) W

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R 211405Z MAY 75

FM AMEMBASSY MANAMA BAHRAIN

TO SECSTATE WASHINGTON DC 2127

INFO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI UAE

AMEMBASSY DOHA QATAR

AMEMBASSY JIDDA SAUDI ARABIA

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY MUSCAT OMAN

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN IRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L MANAMA 0583

E.O. 11652 : GDS

TAGS : PFOR, BA

SUBJECT : KUWAITI VISIT

1. MAY 20 AMIR TOLD ME THAT VISIT KUWAITI CROWN PRINCE/PRIME MINISTER JABIR AL-AHMAD AND HIS 57-MAN RETINUE WAS, AT TOP LEVEL, A PLEASANT COURTESY CALL WITHOUT SERIOUS SPECIFIC SUBSTANTIVE CONTENT. WE NOTE, HOWEVER, THAT COMMUNIQUE RELEASED DURING VISIT IS SIGNIFICANT IN ITS CALL FOR "SOME SORT OF GULF UNION".

2. COMMENT: WE DO NOT FIND AMIR'S DESCRIPTION OF VISIT AND COMMUNIQUE'S CALLING FOR UNSPECIFIED FORM OF GULF UNITY INCONSISTENT. AS WE HAVE REPORTED ON PREVIOUS OCCASIONS, GOB FOREIGN MINISTER IN RECENT MONTHS HAS CONSISTENTLY TAKEN THE LINE THAT GREATER IMPETUS TOWARD GULF UNITY IS ESSENTIAL, AND NOW IS THE TIME TO PAY DRAMATIC LIP SERVICE TO THAT CONCEPT. AT THE SAME TIME, HE ADMITS THAT IT IS PREMATURE TO DISCUSS SERIOUSLY THE FUTURE INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK FOR A "UNITY", WHICH MUST INCLUDE NOT JUST THE

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PAGE 02 MANAMA 00583 211450Z

LOWER GULF STATES BUT KUWAIT AND PERHAPS EVEN SAUDI ARABIA

AS WELL. THE SIZE OF KUWAITI DELEGATION SUGGESTS WHAT
POSSIBLY WAS ACCOMPLISHED SUBSTANTIVELY DURING VISIT; A WIDE
RANGE OF WORKING LEVEL DISCUSSIONS, INCLUDING DISCUSSION OF
SPECIFIC PRACTICAL COOPERATIVE MEASURES WHICH INDIVIDUALLY
ARE PRETTY HUMDRUM BUT COLLECTIVELY MIGHT ADD UP TO
SIGNIFICANT PRACTICAL PROGRAM OF BAHRAIN-KUWAITI COOPERATION.
JOINT COMMUNIQUE INDICATED DECISION TO FORM "FOLLOW-UP
COMMITTEE" CHAIRED AT FOREIGN MINISTER LEVEL TO MEET TWICE
A YEAR TO REVIEW PROGRESS IN THESE SPECIFIC ENDEAVORS.

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